

1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 67

July 8, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives SCHNEIDER, HAHN, BOYLE, TRAVIS, YOUNG, KLUSMAN, UNDERHEIM, MILLER, KREUSER, BRANDEMUEHL, URBAN, PORTER, SPILLNER, OWENS, MUSSER, PLOUFF, GOETSCH and JENSEN, cosponsored by Senators GROBSCHMIDT, RISSER, COWLES and GEORGE. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of former Representative Robert M.
2 Thompson.

3 Whereas, Robert M. Thompson was born in Madison on November 25, 1927;
4 and

5 Whereas, he married the former Ruth H. Lanzendorf on August 14, 1948, in
6 Arlington, and was the proud father of Karol (Bob) Tomlinson and grandfather of
7 Eric Tomlinson and Kari Tomlinson; and

8 Whereas, Bob owned and operated the Columbia Electric in Dekorra for many
9 years; and

10 Whereas, in 1980 Bob was appointed United States marshal for the Western
11 District of Wisconsin, and during his tenure received the Justice Department's Silver
12 Star for Bravery Award for his management of the nearly 15,000 Cuban refugees
13 during the Cuban deployment at Fort McCoy, and was the highest decorated civilian
14 law enforcement officer in the country at this time; and

1 Whereas, Robert Thompson, always interested in government, served as
2 chairman of the Dekorra Town Board and served for 9 years on the Columbia County
3 Board of Supervisors; and

4 Whereas, Bob served for 5 terms in the Wisconsin legislature as state
5 representative from the 80th assembly district, and served 3 years as senate
6 sergeant at arms; and

7 Whereas, Bob served as administrator for the Division of Emergency
8 Government from January 1991 to March 1993, where he brought openness and local
9 government participation to the State Emergency Response Board through the
10 implementation of advisory committees. Under Bob's tenure, the Hazardous
11 Materials Emergency Response Team System was implemented in the state of
12 Wisconsin and now serves as a model for the nation; and

13 Whereas, Bob was a fixture at Poynette High School softball games, which were
14 coached by his son-in-law Bob Tomlinson, and helped with batting practice and was
15 like a grandfather to the players, as well as their number one fan; now, therefore, be
16 it

17 *Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That* the members of the
18 legislature of the state of Wisconsin commend Robert M. Thompson's years of
19 dedicated public service and extend their condolences to his family and friends; and,
20 be it further

21 *Resolved, That* the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint
22 resolution to Mr. Thompson's wife, Ruth; and to his daughter, Karol.

23

(END)